

Message Text

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20

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15

NSC-05 H-02 /058 W

----- 130913

R 060911Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5432

INFO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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CASABLANCA FOR RCAA

LAGOS FOR FAA

COMMERCE PASS COHEN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, BEXP, LT

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - FEASIBILITY OF BOEING 737 OPERATIONS INTO MASERU

REF: 75 JOHANNESBURG 1613 (NOTAL), STATE 102,

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED FEASIBILITY UTILIZATION 737 WITH W. G. MCELREAY, DIRECTOR, LESOTHO AIRWAYS. DIRECTOR STATED PURCHASE AND OPERATION 737 HIGHLY UNLIKELY IN LESOTHO DUE FOLLOWING REASONS:

A. RUNWAY ONLY 4100 FT. IN LENGTH, WITH DIP AND RISE AND ONLY ONE APPROACH PATH.

B. INABILITY 737 HANDLE MASERU AIRPORT CONDITIONS WITHIN
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SAFETY MARGINS.

C. PROBLEMS WITH FINANCING, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE GIVEN
EARLY STAGE OF COMMERCIAL AIRLINE DEVELOPMENT IN LESOTHO.

2. HOWEVER, DIRECTOR INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING FUTURE
REQUIREMENT WITH BOEING REPS. FYI. FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR
NEW INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IS ALREADY COMPLETED. MAJOR
OBSTACLE IS LACK OF INTEREST AND FINANCING FROM OUTSIDE
SOURCES, SINCE LESOTHO INCAPABLE FINANCING CONSTRUCTION
WITH OWN RESOURCES.

3. THOUGH POSSIBILITY OF SALES HIGHLY UNLIKELY AT THIS POINT,
BOEING MAY FIND IT USEFUL TO MAKE EARLY CONTACT FOR POTENTIAL
FUTURE BUSINESS.
HAUGHT

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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